



MINUTES
MANSFIELD ADVOCATES FOR CHILDREN
Wednesday, April 7, 2010
6:00-8:00 PM
Council Chambers- Town Hall

PRESENT: K. Grunwald (staff), S. Baxter (staff), J. Stoughton (Co-Chair), J. Higham, L. Dahn, V. Fry, K. Paulhus, L. Holle, J. Goldman, T. Berthelot, MJ Newman, R. Leclerc (staff), G. Bent (Co-Chair), C. Guerreri, A. Lapsis, P. Braithwaite, D. McLaughlin, A. Bloom, F. Baruzzi (staff)
REGRETS: L. Young, S. Daley

ITEM	DISCUSSION	OUTCOMES
Actions Needed	<p>-Welcome: Co- Chair J. Stoughton called the meeting to order at 6:05 PM; members introduced themselves.</p> <p>-Adopt Minutes: In the Updates section J. Higham clarified that she has contacts with an organization that builds “<u>playgrounds</u> and not <u>spray parks</u>” in the “Updates” section.</p>	The minutes of March 3, 2010 were accepted with that correction.
Old Business	<p>-<u>Week of the Young Child</u>-Report on planned activities and promotion of the event: J. Stoughton distributed a placemat that was created by the committee to promote the event. WOYC events will be held during two consecutive weeks, including school vacation week. Center Directors were asked if local leaders can attend their Centers to read to the children. K. Paulhus raised a concern that events are only taking place in the morning, which excludes children who attend pre-school and half-day kindergarten in the morning. This will be taken into account when planning for next year. Children’s art work will be on display throughout the town.</p> <p>-<u>Work/Life Expo</u>-April 21, 2010, 9:00AM-3:00PM- V. Fry explained that this is being sponsored by the UConn HR Department. A. Bloom stated that she feels that all early care providers in town should make information</p>	<p>Local Leaders will be asked to read at the local Early Care Centers. It was clarified that all events are open to the public. Thanks to Nancy Hovorka for developing the flyer. S. Baxter asked that anyone who is attending these events take some MAC literature to hand out.</p> <p>J. Goldman will be there from 9-10:30; K. Paulhus, J. Higham offered to help staff</p>

	<p>available. S. Baxter will include School Readiness information and birth-3 information. Anyone who volunteers can get their parking ticket validated. Some discussion about providing resources on other communities; volunteers will refer those requests to 211-Infoline.</p>	the table.
<p>UPDATE on Ongoing Business</p>	<p>-<u>School Building Community Forum</u> on April 13, 2010, 7:00-9:00 PM: G. Bent reminded members that this is next Tuesday; the <u>intent is to inform; focus on the “big picture” issues</u>. Clarification that the recommendation from the building committee is for one school, but there is also information out about a 2-school option. Some discussion about how many options will be presented at this meeting and how that will be presented to the public. The general feeling is not to focus on the details of all possible options.</p> <p>Gloria explained who the panelists are for the event. Kathy Dorgan will sit on both panels. Some discussion about using this event to recruit new MAC members and getting information out about the proposed survey. MAC members will be identified by nametags at the meeting.</p> <p>-<u>Health Team</u>-walkability and bikeability audit assistance: A. Bloom has materials available for members to conduct audits near the schools and town centers on pre-identified routes within a one mile radius.</p> <p>-<u>Life After the Option 1 Decision</u> (due week of 4/19): S. Baxter provided members with information about Option 2a in the event that we are not funded for Option 1. Funding for 2a is limited to up to \$25,000. The primary difference between these two options is implementation vs. enhancement of the plan. Each of the teams has identified the need to collect more data and do additional planning. C. Guerreri explained that all grants are being reviewed now; if not funded for Option 1 we may be offered Option 2a. The fiscal year for this grant begins April 1. J. Higham asked how the work on the grant application can be funded? It is up to the community to determine how to support this. It appears that this is not going to be an intense application, but a revision of the application that was submitted. There will continue to be support offered through all options including technical assistance and capacity building, and mandatory training for groups starting in May. The focus of the liaison will be with the leadership of the Collaborative (Executive</p>	<p>Please take flyers for distribution if you are attending the event.</p> <p>If interested in participating you can register online; A. Bloom will send out the link. Encourage families and children to participate in this.</p>

	<p>Committee). Some questions were raised about how the funding can be used: (support infrastructure) and not programs. J. Goldman suggested that the group vote to authorize the Executive Committee to respond to the decision by Graustein regarding whatever decisions are necessary. Other members may participate.</p> <p>C. Guerreri strongly encouraged that a team of 4-5 be formed to attend the training on Performance Measures and Accountability (required for Option 1 funding). May 11, June 14, and July 13.</p>	<p>Motion passed unanimously.</p> <p>A. Bloom will send out a request for people to attend these meetings.</p>
New Team Business	<p><u>Team Work</u></p> <p>-<u>Develop ONE question</u> from your team for the Survey that the community connectedness team is doing. S. Baxter asked for clarification regarding the format that this Team used. The Early Learners Team has at least one question that does not fit this format. Some discussion about the importance of collecting demographic information, and which demographics to collect.</p>	<p>A. Bloom agreed to review the survey questions and ensure that they fit an appropriate survey protocol.</p>
Adjournment/Next Meeting	<p>Meeting adjourned at 8:10 PM.</p> <p>Next meeting: Wednesday, May 5, 2010, -Town Hall, Council Chambers-Any suggestions for that agenda, send to Sandy Baxtersp@mansfieldct.org</p>	

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin Grunwald